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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent application of: Richard P. Welle

Examiner: R. Hanig

Serial No.: 09/577,927

Art Unit No.: 2878

Filing Date: 05/24/00

For: ISOTOPIC TAGGANT METHOD AND  
COMPOSITION

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Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REPLY TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT (37  
C.F.R. 1.121) OF FEBRUARY 12, 2002, INCLUDING AMENDMENT  
MADE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(b)**

Dear Sir:

Applicant responds to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121) dated February 12, 2002, by the following amendment to replace the (not entered) amendment filed on 1-10-02, as follows:

**I. AMENDED CLAIMS, MARKED-UP COPY.**

Please amend the claims as follows.

25. (Twice Amended) A taggant pen comprising:  
a pen; [and] *no bracketing ?*  
the pen containing ink; [and]  
the ink containing a taggant; and  
the taggant representative of an identification code.
26. (Amended) [The pen of claim 25 further including:]